



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/214,875	04/19/99	MANHES	H 02581P0045A

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QM12/0508

EXAMINER

LEWIS, W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3731

DATE MAILED:

*14*  
05/08/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**09/214,875**

Applicant(s)

**Manhes**

Examiner

**William Lewis**

Group Art Unit

**3731**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 14, 1900

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 24-31 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 24-31 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

**WILLIAM LEWIS**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**  
**GROUP 3300**

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. Claims 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The issue of the pivotable parts having a blade end portion that permits cutting is not supported by the specification or the drawings.

2. Claims 25-27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. There is no support in the specification for the spring elements as claimed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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4. Claims 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Taylor (US Patent 5,279,564). Taylor discloses an elongated sleeve (14), and pivotable parts (22) with spring members (12).

*Response to Arguments*

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 24-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to W. Lewis whose telephone number is (703) 308-0060.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Buiz, can be reached on (703) 308-0871. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3590 or 3591.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.



**WILLIAM LEWIS  
PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 3300**

WL

May 4, 2000